

The Examiner further requires an Election of Species within Group I to begin the prior art search. More specifically, the Examiner is requiring the election of a single metabolite of the metabolites listed in the Markush Groups of claims 3 and 38.

With respect to the Election of Species, applicants elect:

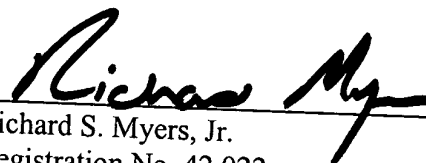
6-keto-prostaglandin $F_{1\alpha}$ -glycerol ester (6-keto-PGF $_{1\alpha}$ -G).

Applicants understand that if no relevant prior art is found with respect to the elected species, the search will be expanded non-elected species. Applicants further understand that if no applicable prior art is discovered, the entire genus will be searched and examined.

No fee is required for this Response.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this election or the Application in general, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard S. Myers, Jr.
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STITES & HARBISON
Customer No. 32885

Attorneys for Applicant



Serial Number 09/923,637

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Response and Return Receipt Postcard are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

on September 12, 2002.

Richard S. Myers, Jr.
Reg. No. 42,022

Richard S. Myers, Jr.
Signature

Sept 12, 2002
Date